

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037144 TOSEC 020086
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00
PC-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 INR-07 CIAE-00 PRS-01 INRE-00
/049 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT:RMYERS:DR
APPROVED BY S/S-O: R. PERITO
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
PEACE CORPS

-----172344 085007 /75-61

O 172253Z FEB 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037144 TOSEC 020086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO

SUBJECT:COLOMBIA KIDNAPPING - SITUATION REPORT NO. 5

1. STILL NO WORD FROM FARC: PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER RICHARD STARR IS STILL MISSING IN COLOMBIA AND NO COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM HIS KIDNAPPERS. THE COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE HAS JOINED THE SEARCH EFFORT, BUT SOURCES ON THE GROUND BELIEVE THAT NEITHER PLANES NOR GOC FOOT SOLDIERS COULD EFFECTIVELY TRACK THE FLEEING GUERRILLAS AND STARR DUE TO THE SINGLE AND DOUBLE CANOPY TYPE VEGETATION IN THE AREA.

2. MORE DETAILS ON CAPTURE: A COLOMBIAN JUDGE WHO WAS AN EYE-WITNESS TO THE FARC ATTACK AND STARR'S CAPTURE NOTED THAT WHEN STARR TOLD THE UNIT LEADER THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM, ONE OF THE FARC MEMBERS
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PAGE 02 STATE 037144 TOSEC 020086

SAID "HE IS GOOD" AND TOLD STARR TO GO WITH THE GUERRILLAS.

STARR WAS THEN PERMITTED TO PACK HIS BELONGINGS, INCLUDING HIS "SHAVING THINGS" (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING HIS PEACE CORPS FIRST AID KIT), BEFORE DEPARTING. REPORTEDLY, THE GUERRILLAS WERE VERY CORDIAL AND POLITE AND EVEN MENTIONED THEY WERE NOT GOING TO HARM ANYONE BECAUSE THEY WERE ONLY

LOOKING FOR ARMS, MONEY AND DRUGS (PRESUMABLY MEDICINES).

3. POSSIBILITY OF RANSOM DEMAND? ASKED IF FARC MENTIONED ANY PLANS TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY OR OTHER OUTSIDERS, THE JUDGE REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT REMEMBER, BUT THAT HE DID HEAR THE WORD "RANSOM" MENTIONED IN THE CONVERSATION.

HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, TOSEC, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: RMYERS:DR
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO, FARC, (STARR, RICHARD)
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